

Liquor Control Board for Harford County, Maryland

Growler Information for Licensees

The Maryland General Assembly approved a growler bill for alcohol beverage licensees during the 2014 session. In Harford County this bill applies to all class A-1 and class D licensees and to class B licensees who currently have a beer and wine or a beer, wine, and liquor off-sale privilege. The Board will issue a yearly growler license, upon request, to any licensee who meets the above requirements. This law will take effect on October 1, 2014.

Cost: \$50 annually, permit to run from May 1 through April 30 of the following year

Hours: Beer may be dispensed in growlers from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 a.m.

Growler requirements

The requirements for the growlers are found in Article 2B, § 8-103, § 8-213.3 & § 21-107:

To be used as a refillable container for beer under the authority of a refillable container permit issued under this article, a container shall:

- (1) have a capacity of not less than 32 ounces and not more than 128 ounces;
- (2) be sealable;
- (3) be branded with an identifying mark of the seller of the container;
- (4) bear the federal health warning statement required for containers of alcoholic beverages under 27 C.F.R. §16.21;
- (5) display instructions for cleaning the container; and
- (6) bear a label stating that:
 - (i) cleaning the container is the responsibility of the consumer; and
 - (ii) the contents of the container are perishable and should be refrigerated immediately and consumed within 48 hours after purchase.

A retailer may refill a growler from any other retailer, even from outside the State, as long as the container meets the above requirements.

27 C.F.R., § 16.61: Mandatory label information

There shall be stated on the brand label or separate front label, or on a back or side label, separate and apart from all other information, the following statement:

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) According to the Surgeon General, women should not drink alcoholic beverages during pregnancy because of the risk of birth defects.

(2) Consumption of alcoholic beverages impairs your ability to drive a car or operate machinery, and may cause health problems.